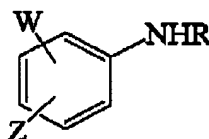


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently amended) A process for the direct synthesis of mono-N-substituted anilines having the general formula (I)



(I)

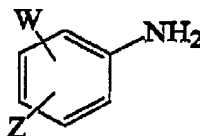
5 wherein

R indicates a linear or branched saturated carbon chain, preferably comprising 1 to 7 carbon atoms, an unsaturated carbon chain with the double carbon-carbon link also in the allyl position (2,3) with respect to the nitrogen atom of the amines (I), comprising 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or a benzyl group or a benzyl group substituted at the aromatic ring with methyl and ethyl radicals;

W is selected from the group consisting of [-H,] -OH, -CH₂OH, -COOH and -CONH₂ and can be ortho, meta or para with respect to the carbon atom to which the nitrogen atom is attached;

15 Z is selected from the group consisting of -H, -halogen, -alkyl, -alkoxy, -NO₂ and -CN; ~~provided that W and Z are not simultaneously H,~~

said process comprising the step of reacting, in the presence of a solvent, a compound having the general formula (II):

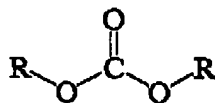


(II)

20 wherein W and Z are as defined above,

with an organic carbonate selected from the group consisting of compounds having the general formula (III)

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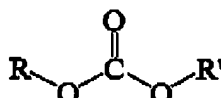


(III)

wherein R is as defined above,

and compounds of general formula (IV)

(IV)



- 5 wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of $\text{CH}_3(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n$ - with $n \geq 2$ and branched or linear alkyl radicals that have at least three carbon atoms;

 in the presence of a faujasite selected from the group comprising X-faujasite exchanged with alkaline metals and Y-faujasite exchanged with
10 alkaline metals.

2. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate has the general formula (III).

3. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate has the general formula (IV).

- 15 4. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein the radical R is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, allyl and benzyl.

5. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said faujasite is present in a ratio between 1:10 and 3:1 with respect to the
20 compound having the formula (I).

6. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 5, wherein said faujasite is present in a ratio between 1:1.5 and 1:1 with respect to the compound having the formula (I).

7. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein
25 said faujasite is Y-faujasite exchanged with sodium.

8. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein

said organic carbonate is dimethyl carbonate.

9. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is diethyl carbonate.

10. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein
5 said organic carbonate is diallyl carbonate.

11. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is dibenzyl carbonate.

12. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl-methylcarbonate.

10 13. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl-ethylcarbonate.

14. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate is present in a ratio between 10:1 and 50:1 with respect to the compound having the formula (I).

15 15. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 70°C and 190°C.

16. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 15, wherein said temperature is between 90°C and 150°C.

17. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 8, wherein
20 said step is performed at a temperature between 70°C and 90°C.

18. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 9, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 70°C and 130°C.

19. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 10, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 130°C and 190°C.

25 20. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 11, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 130°C and 190°C.

21. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed at atmospheric pressure.

22. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein
30 said step is performed in an autoclave.

23. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed in atmosphere that is modified by adding an inert gas selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and argon.

24. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 1, wherein
5 said solvent is selected from the group consisting of:

said organic carbonate,
a co-solvent, and
mixtures thereof.

25. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 24, wherein
10 said co-solvent is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-dimethoxyethane, triethylene glycol dimethyl ether, and mixtures thereof.

26. (Previously submitted) The process according to claim 24, wherein said solvent is a mixture of said organic carbonate and of a co-solvent and said co-solvent is preferably present in a ratio comprised between 1:1 and
15 5:1 with respect to the organic carbonate.

27. (Withdrawn) The use of faujasites exchanged with alkaline metals to catalyze reactions for mono-N-substitution of functionalized anilines.

28. (Withdrawn) The use according to claim 27, wherein said faujasite is NaY-faujasite.